(f) From exploration to production of oil and gas, time taken is about 5 to 7 years depending upon location of discoveries and availability of infrastructure. In Rajasthan, crude oil production is envisaged in 2009-10.

Production of oil and gas during 2007

250. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the total quantity of oil and gas explored by various public and private sector oil companies during 2007 so far, company-wise;

(b) the extent to which the domestic demand of the country has been met from such explorations; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by Government on such explorations, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) In 2006-07, with sustained exploration efforts, details of inplace reserve accretion, oil and gas production, exploration expenditure made by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Pvt./JV (Joint Venture) Companies are as under:—

	ONGC	OIL	Pvt./JV companies
Inplace reserve accretion (MMTOE)	169.52	24.52	193.49
Crude Oil Production MMT	26.05	3.11	4.83
Natural Gas Production BCM	22.44	2.26	7.039

Exploration efforts are not directly related to production of oil and gas. The country has about 70% import dependence on crude oil & petroleum products.

(c) The Government does not incur any expenditure on exploration. ONGC and OIL have spent Rs. 4742.62 crore and Rs. 234.60 crore respectively on exploration during the year 2006-07.

Rise of oil prices in international market

251. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the international market the oil prices have risen around $96 per barrel;

(b) if so, what will be the impact of this international rise on oil prices on the Indian economy; and

(c) the total import of oil during 2006-07 and 2007-08 indicating price in terms of $5 per barrel, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The global prices of crude oil and petroleum products since 2004 have remained high and volatile. The Indian Basket crude oil touched an